

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00
ACDA-12 HA-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /123 W
-----093427 232241Z /23

O R 232056Z MAY 78
FM USINT HAVANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1991
INFO NACB COLLECTIVE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 HAVANA 1386

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, PORG, CU
SUBJECT: NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE: MIDDLE EAST ASPECTS

REF: (A) HAVANA 1343, (B) HAVANA 1336

1. SUMMARY: TORRID SYRIAN-EGYPTIAN DEBATES ON MIDDLE EAST AT
NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING BUREAU MEETING (MAY 15-20) ENDED WITH
HARSH EXCHANGE BETWEEN SYRIAN AND EGYPTIAN REPRESENTATIVES.
WHILE EGYPTIANS ARE CLAIMING THEY ESCAPED CRITICISM, SYRIANS
WERE ABLE TO ADVANCE THEIR CAUSE AT NAM MEETING. END SUMMARY.

1. HOTLY-DEBATED MIDDLE EAST ISSUE ENDED WITH NASTY EXCHANGE IN
WAKE OF PERSONAL DENUNCIATION OF PRESIDENT SADAT AND HIS TRIP TO
ISRAEL BY SYRIAN MINISTER OF STATE ADBEL KARIM ADI, MAY19.
EGYPTIAN REPRESENTATIVE REPORTEDLY RESPONDED THAT ATTACK ON SADAT
VIOLATED TRADITION OF NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT, THAT DIFFERENCES
AMONG ARABS SHOULD BE KEPT IN ARAB CAMP AND THAT "THOSE WHOSE
HANDS ARE DIRTY WITH KILLING OF PALESTINIANS IN LEBANON" HAVE
NO RIGHT TO GIVE ADVICE TO OTHERS. AT THIS POINT, SYRIAN
BEGAN POUNDING TABLE WITH GLASS BUT WAS RESTRAINED BY CUBAN
FOREIGN MINISTER MALMIERCA WHO REFUSED TO GIVE FURTHER RIGHT
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OF REPLY TO SYRIANS OR EGYPTIANS. (COMMENT: EGYPTIANS
BELIEVE CUBANS WERE UPSET BY SYRIAN PRESSURE AGAINST EGYPT
WHICH DISRUPTED NON-ALIGNED SHOW OF UNITY WHICH CUBANS
WANTED.)

3. DESPITE EGYPTIAN AFFIRMATIONS TO US THAT FOURTEEN OF
TWENTY-FOUR MEMBERS OF NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING BUREAU

SUPPORTED THEIR POSITION, FINAL COMMUNIQUE APPROVED BY BUREAU SHOWS THAT SYRIAN TOUGHENING (REF B) OF CUBAN DRAFT (REF A) HAD SUBSTANTIAL SUCCESS. FINAL COMMUNIQUE MAKES FOLLOWING POINTS:

--PALESTINIAN QUESTION CONSTITUTES "ESSENCE OF MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM AND SOLUTION OF BOTH PROBLEMS IN INSEPARABLE." NAM BUREAU UNDERLINED "NECESSITY OF SAFEGUARDING INTRINSIC UNITY OF PALESTINIAN PROBLEM WHEN IT IS EXAMINED JOINTLY WITH MIDDLE EAST SITUATION."

--"...ANY EFFORT TO ESTABLISH JUST AND LASTING PEACE SHOULD NECESSARILY INCLUDE WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAEL FROM ALL OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND RECOGNITION OF INALIENABLE NATIONAL RIGHTS OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE."

--"...ANY SOLUTION THAT DOES NOT TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THESE TWO FUNDAMENTAL CONDITIONS WILL NOT SERVE TO PROMOTE CAUSE OF PEACE; ON THE CONTRARY, IT WILL ONLY SMOOTH PATH FOR ALL EFFORTS OF UNITED STATES TO LIQUIDATE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM AND TO HELP ISRAEL REACH ITS OBJECTIVE AND TO PERPETUATE STATUS QUO RESULTING FROM OCCUPATION..."

--NAM BUREAU "DEPLORED DECLARATIONS OF SOME LEADERS OF UNITED STATES RELATING TO REPEATED THREATS TO USE FORCE AGAINST PETROLEUM-PRODUCING COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY IN REGION OF ARABIAN GULF AND THEIR PLANS TO MAINTAIN MILITARY CONTINGENTS TO INTERVENE IN AREA."

--BUREAU CONDEMNED VARIOUS ABUSES IN ISRAELI-OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.
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--BUREAU EMPHASIZED THAT LASTING PEACE CAN ONLY BE REACHED WITHIN CONTEXT OF "GLOBAL SOLUTION, BASED ON TOTAL WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAEL FROM ALL OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES" AND EXERCISE BY PALESTINIAN PEOPLE OF LEGITIMATE NATIONAL RIGHTS "INCLUDING RIGHT TO ESTABLISH NATIONAL AND INDEPENDENT STATE IN PALESTINE AND RIGHT OF PLO, ONLY LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY EFFORT TOWARD A SOLUTION OF QUESTION OF PALESTINE AND MIDDLE EAST."

--GIVEN "EXPANSIONIST POLICY" AND "DILATORY TACTICS" OF ISRAEL, "THE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND MILITARY SUPPORT THAT THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER STATES GIVE TO ISRAEL IS A MATTER OF SERIOUS PREOCCUPATION."

--BUREAU CONDEMNED ISRAELI INCURSION IN LEBANON AND DEMANDED "IMMEDIATE AND UNCONDITIONAL" WITHDRAWAL. CALLED ON UN TO APPLY CHAPTER VII SANCTIONS TO THIS END.

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ACTION IO-14

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 HAVANA 1386

--BUREAU CALLED ON ALL STATES TO PROVIDE MATERIAL AND MORAL
SUPPORT TO ARABS AND PLO, AND TO SUSPEND ALL HELP STRENGTHENING
ISRAELI MILITARY POTENTIAL.
--NAM CONDEMNED ISRAELI CONVENTIONAL ARMS BUILD-UP AND
INTENTION TO ACQUIRE NUCLEAR WEAPONS. CALLED FOR SUPPORT
AT SSOD OF PROPOSAL ASKING FOR:
-"COOPERATION FROM ALL STATES, PARTICULARLY US, IN EFFECTIVE
INTERNATIONAL ACTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER VII...
TO PREVENT GRAVE THREAT TO PEACE...REPRESENTED BY PERSISTENT
ESCALATION OF ISRAELI ARMAMENT."
-"SECURITY COUNCIL APPEAL TO ALL STATES..., REGARDLESS OF
EXISTING CONTRACTS, TO ABSTAIN FROM SUPPLYING ARMS, MUNITIONS,
MILITARY EQUIPMENT OR VEHICLES, OR ANY SPARE PARTS TO ISRAEL"
DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY AND END "TRANSFER OF NUCLEAR EQUIPMENT,
FISSIONABLE MATERIAL OR TECHNOLOGY TO ISRAEL."
--NAM CONDEMNED ISRAELI ARMS SALES TO SOUTH AFRICA AND TO VARIOUS
COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY GUATEMALA AND NICARAGUE.
--BUREAU CONDEMNED US POLICY OF "IGNORING" PALESTINIAN NATIONAL
RIGHTS, EXPRESSED SERIOUS PREOCCUPATION WITH "CONTINUED USURPATION
OF PALESTINE BY ISRAEL."
--NAM CALLED FOR SECURITY COUNCIL TO TAKE DECISIONS
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PERMITTING PALESTINIAN PEOPLE TO EXERCISE RIGHTS "INCLUDING
RIGHT TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMES AND PROPERTIES."
--BUREAU REAFFIRMED COLOMBO DECLARATION THAT "ZIONISM IS FORM OF
RACISM."

4. EGYPTIANS APPRAISED COMMUNIQUE A SUCCESS BECAUSE SADAT AND HIS TRIP TO ISRAEL WERE NOT SPECIFICALLY CON-
DEMNED. SYRIANS, HOWEVER, STATE THAT THEIR INTENTION WAS
NOT TO ATTACK SADAT PERSONALLY, BUT RATHER TO PILLORY HIS
ALLEGED EFFORT TO PURSUE SEPARATE PEACE IN EXCHANGE ONLY
FOR HIS SINAI TERRITORIES. SYRIAN EMBASSY HERE CLAIMS
THAT SYRIAN AMENDMENT (REF B) WAS APPROVED AT DAMASCUS
POLITICAL LEVEL IN ORDER TO BLOCK EFFORT BY SADAT TO SEEK
TO BARGAIN ONLY FOR SINAI. SYRIANS SAY THEY ARE WILLING
TO MAKE UP WITH SADAT, IF HE IS WILLING TO SIT DOWN WITH
SYRIA, JORDAN, AND PLO, IN ORDER TO HOLD DISCUSSIONS WITH
ISRAEL, US AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES. SYRIANS
CLAIM THAT PRESIDENT CARTER'S INTENTION TO GO TO GENEVA
AND US GESTURES IN DIRECTION OF PLO WERE PURPOSELY
TORPEDOED BY SADAT'S TRIP TO ISRAEL. (COMMENT: SYRIAN
EMBASSY STATED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM'S DECISION
NOT TO COME TO HAVANA WAS POLITICAL, BUT HAD NOTHING
TO DO WITH DISSATISFACTION WITH CUBA OR CUBA'S POLICY ON
HORN. IMPLICATION WAS THAT KHADDAM DID NOT WISH TO BE
PERSONALLY ASSOCIATED WITH SYRIAN HATCHET JOB ON SADAT.)

5. COMMENT: COMPARISON OF CUBAN ORIGINAL DRAFT (HAVANA 1343)
AND SYRIAN ADDENDA (HAVANA 1336) LEADS TO INESCAPABLE
CONCLUSION THAT NAM BROUGHT DAMASCUS' LINE OPPOSING SEPA-
RATE PEACE EFFORTS. WHILE EGYPTIANS STATE THAT THEY ARE
WORKING TOWARD GLOBAL SOLUTION, NAM COMMUNIQUE'S CRITI-
CISM OF SADAT IS PATENT TO ALL READERS. ATTACKS ON
UNITED STATES, ACCORDING TO BOTH SYRIANS AND EGYPTIANS,
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SERVE AS ANOTHER SYRIAN VEHICLE TO AVOID NEED TO ATTACK
SADAT DIRECTLY. (FYI ORIGINAL SYRIAN ADDENDA DID NOT
SPECIFICALLY MENTION EGYPT OR SADAT.) END COMMENT.

6. AS FOR ROLE OF OTHER ARAB PARTIES HERE, WHILE IRAQIS
STATED THAT SYRIANS DID NOT GO FAR ENOUGH WITH THEIR
ANTI-ISRAELI PROPOSALS, THEY CRITICIZED DAMASCUS FOR
BEGINNING OPEN QUARREL WITH EGYPT IN NAM. PLO SIMPLY
CONTRIBUTED TO EXTREMISM OF SESSION. MOROCCO, TUNISIA,
AND SUDAN BACKED EGYPT.
GLASSMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NONALIGNED NATIONS MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978HAVANA01386
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 HAVANA 1343, 78 HAVANA 1336
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2608332
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE: MIDDLE EAST ASPECTS
TAGS: PDEV, PORG, CU, XF
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/839c0799-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014